Federal City Performing Arts Association
Gay Men's Chorus of Washington
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 19, 2008 7:05 p.m. – 8:51 p.m.

Hosted by Shannon Rozner, Wilmer Hale, 1875 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, The Board Room

Present
Board: G. Kubiak, M. Hill, J. Lee, S. Katsurinis, S. Derrevere, J. Gerard, R. Hall, S. Herman, E. James, K. McGee, D. Patton, T. Paul, P. Pompeo, S. Rozner, R. Winter

Ex officio: J. O'Brien, H. Lewis

Staff: J. Buhrman, R. Johnson

Absent: S. Bennett, R. Capps (proxy to M. Hill), H. Hartley

Proceedings:

1) 7:05 p.m. – Chairman Kubiak called the meeting to order
2) 7:05 p.m. – Consent Agenda including Minutes of the March 24, 2008 Board Meeting, and reports of the Executive Director, Artistic Director, Chorus President, Board Chair, and Communications & Marketing Committee Chair were all considered.
3) 7:06 p.m.—Chair recognized S. Rozner for a report on database and technology issues raised by efforts to identify and communicate with alumni of the Chorus. After considering hardware, software and infrastructure, her and the staff's viewpoint was to improve the backbone of the data systems before addressing database software. The round estimate was $9,000-$10,000 to improve the backbone and an additional $15,000 for new database software which would be able to be updated at minimal cost. It was agreed there would be additional research and that a recommendation will be included in the budget for review in August.
4) 7:16 p.m.—Artistic Director's Report—J. Buhrman: based on feedback from Executive Committee concerning budget and his own discretion, a revised 2008-2009 Season was presented. The 2009 Pride concert will be "Friends: through a glass darkly" which deals with crystal meth addiction and recovery and will be marketed in conjunction with community partners that focus on meth addiction.
5) 7:19 p.m. —Other Consent Agenda items were considered: the Development Chair, H. Lewis discussed the Ovation Society kick-off which was a success.
6) 7:27 p.m.—Rob Hall moved the adoption of the Consent Agenda, motion seconded by K. McGee, adopted unanimously.
7) 7:22 p.m.—Presidents Report—J. O'Brien, who was recently reelected without opposition to a second term, discussed the description of leadership roles for chorus officers and the membership handbook.
8) 7:27 p.m.—Treasurer's Report – J. Lee: Reported current projections include a profit of $2,500 which does not include a reserve deposit. Thereafter the Treasurer previewed the FY2009 Budget.
9) 7: 46 p.m.—Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by R. Hall, motion seconded by K. McGee, adopted unanimously

10) 7:46 p.m.—Board Chairman presented the revised Board Handbook with review on the Member's Only website.
11) 7:49 p.m. —Motion to approve the Board Handbook was made by K. McGee and seconded by M. Hill, adopted unanimously.
12) 7:49 p.m.—Development Committee Report—H.Lewis: announced a donor reception on June 12, 2008 and discussed the results of the 2008 Spring Affair which exceeded projected revenue and was a resounding success.
13) 7:58 p.m.—Motion to adopt the Report of the Development Committee was made by R. Hall and seconded by P. Pompeo, adopted unanimously.
14) 7:59 p.m.—Report of the Building the Future Taskforce—R. Winter discussed the research and work of the taskforce and outlined some potential options. Winter notified the Board that he had been selected to serve on the Lincoln Theater Board with the intention of maximizing the Chorus's potential to make the Lincoln Theater its permanent home. Winter also noted that the problems with current office space had been ameliorated and that the current lease required the Chorus to remain there until 2010. Winter outlined next possible steps, including the engagement of a commercial real estate professional and a fundraising consultant to determine the prospects for a capital campaign to acquire permanent performance and rehearsal space for the Chorus. Other options were discussed including the Howard Theater. Concerns were raised about the facilities at the Lincoln Theater and the Taskforce was asked to work with the Production Team to examine their needs. Finally, office space needs were considered on-going and with the lease up in about two years, a motion was made by R. Hall to extend the Taskforce for one year to focus on office space and the possibility of finding a permanent home at Lincoln or elsewhere. Motion was seconded by J. Lee, adopted unanimously.`
15) 8:25 p.m.—Report of the Governance Committee—R. Hall: presented the recommendations of the Governance Committee to nominate John Benton, Paula Bresnan Gibson, Tom Mounteer and Mark Young to be Board Members for three year terms and to re-nominate Steve Herman, Jerry Lee and Dan Patton to serve a second three year term. Motion by R. Hall, second by J. Gerard, motion adopted unanimously.
16) 8:35 p.m.—The Committee also recommended a slate officers for the coming year: Chair, M. Hill; Vice Chair, S. Bennett; Secretary, S. Herman; Treasurer, J. Lee. Finally, the Committee urged the Board to consider a by-laws change to reduce the terms of officers to one year. Motion by R. Hall, second by K. McGee, motion adopted unanimously.
17) 8:40 p.m.—Other Business—P. Pompeo commended Governance Committee Chair R. Hall for his leadership and thanked K. McGee for her service to the Board. J. Gerard commended Adrian Blue and Andy Van Etten for their stewardship of the Spring Affair. J. Buhrman discussed the newly scheduled outreach events for the coming year at Leisure World and Potomac Fever's trip to Rainbow Village in Santa Fe and a concert in Albuquerque, NM. J. Lee commended the Artistic Director for his flexibility and good spirit in revising the 2008-2009 concert season.
18) 8:45 p.m.—The Prerogative of the Chair—G. Kubiak, in his final Board Meeting as Chair expressed his thanks to the Board, the Artistic Director J. Buhrman, the Executive Director R. Johnson, and his officers including previous Secretary K. McGee, previous Treasurer H. Lewis, Secretary S. Katsurinis, Treasurer J. Lee, incoming Secretary S. Herman, and Vice Chair and incoming Chair M. Hill. R. Hall recognized Chair G. Kubiak for his service, after which there was sustained applause.
19) 8:51 p.m. —Motion to adjourn by P. Pompeo, motion seconded by K. McGee, adopted unanimously and meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Katsurinis, Secretary
May, 2008